

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim Status

Claims 48 through 71 are now pending in the application, with Claims 48 and 59 being independent. Claims 25 through 47 have been cancelled herein. Claims 1 through 24 have been previously cancelled. Claims 48 through 71 are newly presented. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

Specification

The specification has been amended to improve its form. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been presented.

Drawings

In response to objection to the drawings, Figures 35 and 36 have been labeled with the legend --PRIOR ART--. A Submission of Replacement Drawing Sheets is being filed with this Amendment. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been presented.

Applicant submits that Figures 1, 2, and 34 depict various features in accordance with Applicant's present invention (see, e.g., page 6, lines 11-17, page 11, lines 3-4 and 17-20, page 17, lines 10-27, and page 31, line 24 through page 32, line 13) and are not referred to in the

disclosure as prior art. Accordingly, Applicant submits that a prior art legend for these figures is not appropriate, and request that the objection to these figures be withdrawn.

Claim Objection

Claims 25, 29, 30, 42, and 43 are objected to for informalities as outlined at page 3 of the Office Action. Claims 25, 29, 30, 42, and 43 have been cancelled herein. It is respectfully submitted that the objection is moot and withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection

Claims 25 through 30, 32, 33, 35 through 38, and 41 through 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Inose (U.S. Patent No. 6,385,407) in view of Palumbo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,999,759).

The rationale underlying the rejection is succinctly set forth in the Office Action.

Response to Claim Rejection

Applicant submits that the rejection of Claims 25 through 30, 32, 33, 35 through 38, and 41 through 45 is moot in light of the cancellation of such claims.

Independent Claim 48 recites a toner supply container comprising a container body having a toner containable inner space and being rotatable about an axis thereof; an opening configured and positioned to permit discharge of the toner in said container body; and a driving force receiving portion configured and positioned to receive a rotational driving force for rotating said container body. The toner supply container further comprises a toner feeding portion configured and positioned to feed the toner in said container body toward said opening

with rotation of said container body; and a sensor provided on said container body so as to rotate integrally with said container body and configured to detect information corresponding to a remaining toner amount in said container body with rotation of said container body.

Independent Claim 59 recites a toner supply system including, *inter alia*, a toner supply container similar to the toner supply container recited in Claim 48.

Inose and Palumbo et al. are cited in the Office Action as allegedly disclosing the features of Applicant's claimed invention. Inose discloses an ink cartridge 100 with an IC unit 40, which may have a sensor for detecting an amount of ink remaining in a storage portion 120 of the ink cartridge 100. *See* Col. 7, lines 4-32.

The Office Action recognizes that Inose does not disclose, *inter alia*, a container body which is rotatable, with a toner feeding body, relying on Palumbo et al. as allegedly disclosing this feature.

Palumbo et al. discloses a toner cartridge 23 with a bar code 56, which is read by a bar code reader 58 every time it passes therebeneath, to determine, using a processing unit 60, a remaining quantity of toner particles, according to an algorithm which multiplies the number of revolutions of a housing 50 by the toner discharged per revolution. *See* Col. 4, lines 52-65.

However, the sensor in Inose does not rotate integrally with a container body, inasmuch as any container body in Inose does not rotate. Additionally, the bar code 56 in Palumbo et al., while rotating with the toner cartridge 23, does not detect information corresponding to a remaining toner amount in the container body with rotation of the container body, inasmuch as the bar code 56 is not a sensor and does not possess detection capabilities. That is, the bar code 56 in Palumbo et al. is a passive component that merely triggers a detection by the bar code reader 58. Notably however, the bar code reader 58 in Palumbo et al. is not provided on

container body, nor does it does not rotate integrally with a container body, but is instead provided as a stationary component above the toner cartridge 23. *See* Fig. 1.

Accordingly, neither Inose nor Palumbo et al., whether taken individually or in combination, can be understood to disclose or suggest a sensor provided on a container body so as to rotate integrally with the container body and configured to detect information corresponding to a remaining toner amount in the container body with rotation of the container body, as recited in independent Claims 48 and 59.

Dependent Claims

Claims 49 through 58 and 60 through 71 are either directly or indirectly dependent from one of independent Claims 48 or 59 and are allowable by virtue of their dependency and in their own right for further defining the invention.

Conclusion

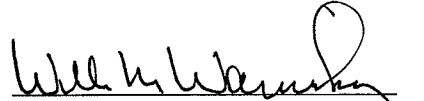
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are allowable over the art of record, and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the application are earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be deemed necessary in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



William M. Wannisky
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 28,373

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
1290 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10104-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
WMW:SKY:mds